

AMENDMENTS

Please replace the paragraphs on lines 7-24 of page 1 with the following:

-- This application claims the priority benefit of U.S. Patent Application 08/979,742, filed November 26, 1997, now abandoned.

Incorporated herein by reference in their entirety and for all purposes are the following: U.S. Patent Applications 08/979,742; 08/974,549; and 08/974,584; PCT Applications PCT/US97/17618 and PCT/US97/17885; and U.S. Patent Applications 08/915,503, 08/912,951, 08/911,312, 08/854,050, 08/851,843, 08/846,017, 08/844,419, and 08/724,643.

This invention was made with United States Government support under Grant No. HD/CA 34880, awarded by the National Institutes of Health. The United States Government has certain rights in the invention. --

Please amend the claims as follows:

Sub
d2
D2

20. (Amended) An isolated, purified or recombinant polynucleotide encoding a telomerase reverse transcriptase protein, wherein said protein:
(i) has at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ. ID NO:2; and,
(ii) has telomerase catalytic activity when associated with telomerase RNA.

21. (Amended) The polynucleotide of claim 20, wherein the encoded telomerase reverse transcriptase protein has an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID NO:2.

D3

28. (Amended) A mouse cell in which an endogenous telomerase reverse transcriptase gene in the cell has been mutated by recombinant means, or progeny of said cell.